

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**Maertens et al**

Atty. Ref.: 2752-43

Div. of Serial No. **08/836,075**

Group:

Filed: **May 9, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **NEW SEQUENCES OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS  
GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS PROPHYLACTIC,  
THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS**

\* \* \* \* \*

**May 9, 2001**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Amend the specification as follows.

Insert the attached Sequence Listing after the claims pages.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-62, without prejudice.

Add the following claims:

--63. (new) A polynucleic acid which is chosen from the group consisting of:

(i) the nucleotide sequence having SEQ ID NO:51,

A1

Sub.D2